



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 17, 2025 ✝ 8:00AM

WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER!



For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- *Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?*
- *Are you sorry for your sin?*
- *Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?*
- *Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?*
- *Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?*

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

AS WE GATHER



Each of God's people has a special life story. The book of Jeremiah contains the messages of a prophet whose calling to speak the Word of the Lord brought him great distress and many difficulties. Known as the "weeping prophet," Jeremiah lived out his life faithfully in challenging historical times. Places associated with him and his life can still be seen by travelers to Jerusalem, including the cave pit where he was imprisoned and the grotto where, according to tradition, he wrote the book of Lamentations. God gave Jeremiah the ability to carry out his mission, saying: "Behold, I make you this day a fortified city . . . and iron pillar" and promised him: "I am with you . . . to deliver you" (Jeremiah 1:18–19). God's working through faithful people in each generation brings us the treasure of His Word proclaimed faithfully to this day. That transmitted sacred Word merits our most careful and thoughtful listening!

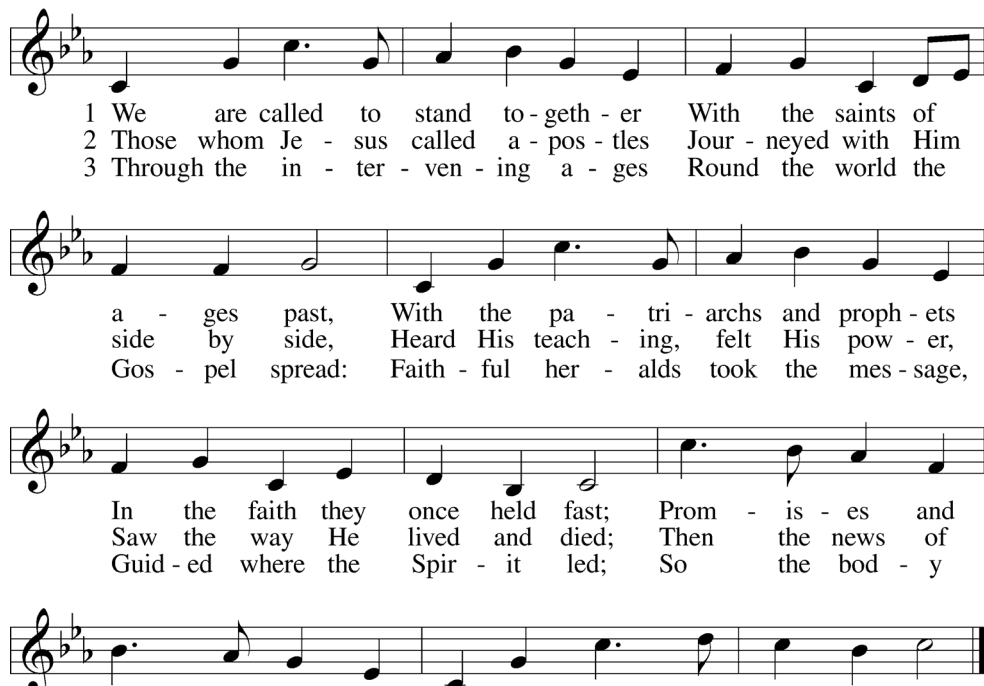
PRELUDE

TOLLING OF THE BELL & WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

828 We Are Called to Stand Together



1 We are called to stand to - geth - er With the saints of
2 Those whom Je - sus called a - pos - tles Jour - neyed with Him
3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the

a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets
side by side, Heard His teach - ing, felt His pow - er,
Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - alds took the mes - sage,

In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and
Saw the way He lived and died; Then the news of
Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y

hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!
res - ur - rec - tion They de - liv - ered far and wide.
grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.

Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, 1962

Tune: Henry V. Gerike, 1948

Text: © 2000 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708390

Tune: © 1973 Henry V. Gerike. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708390

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.


Refrain




C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.




1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al-le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:7–18

L The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 15.

⁷And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ¹⁴But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 11.

¹⁷By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²²By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

²³By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. ²⁴By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, ²⁵choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

²⁹By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

³⁹And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:49–56

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁹[Jesus said:] “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵²For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON HYMN

732 All Depends on Our Possessing



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y
6 If my days on earth He length - en, God my wea - ry



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.
soul will strength - en; All my trust in Him I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en By their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly
Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing, Like a stream a -



not for - sak - en And will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me Will re - main my help di - vine.
way is glid - ing; Safe I an - chor in His grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

The Ultimate Promise Pastor Mark Stapleton

Stand

NICENE CREED

- C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs.

For faith to act in love and service to people, as we follow Jesus through the
seasons and changes of life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For peace in the midst of conflict rather than freedom from it, let us pray to
the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For kind pastors who speak the peace Jesus embodied through the Law and the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all who hold positions of public trust in this and every land that all people may live in peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the healing of the sick and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit [*especially . . .*], let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the good of all who partake this day of the Holy Supper of Jesus' body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For Gracie, our new comfort dog, and for Angel, our retiring comfort dog, that these two gentle creatures sent to us as gifts from God continue to provide unconditional love, emotional support, and smiles to all those they minister to around our parish and in our communities, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

OFFERING



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Use this QR Code to give a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice, by credit/debit card, or checking account.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

G Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✙ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✙ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

578 Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth
speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -
light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
press toward glo - ry, And Thine lives our hopes con - fess.
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills
us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76
Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944
Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708390
Tune: Public domain

Stand

DISMISSAL

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

THANK THE LORD

Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43; 1 Chronicles 16:8–10



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

INSTALLATION OF ST. JOHN'S COMFORT DOG, GRACIE

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us stead-fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je-sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com-fort-er of price-less worth, Send peace and
by de- ceit or sword Would wrest the king-dom from Your
Lord of lords a-lone; De-fend Your ho-ly Church that
u-ni-ty on earth; Sup-port us in our fi-nal
Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e-ter-nal-ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

Lynne Braun, Lector (8:00am)

Chad Hemminger, Lector (10:45am)

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers at the Altar are given in celebration and thanksgiving to God for our 27th wedding anniversary this month by Chad and Rebecca Hemminger.

CANTATA CHOIR VOICE TRIALS

We are currently holding informal voice trials for those that wish to become a member of the Cantata Choir. This gives us a chance to hear you sing, for proper placement in the choir, and

to review the expectations. All voice parts are welcome. A strong commitment to the rehearsal and service schedule is expected. We will hold voice trials on **Sunday, September 7** beginning at **12:15pm -1:15pm** in fifteen-minute increments in the choir room. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org.

JUBILATION RINGERS

We would like to bring back our handbell choir, but we need your time and talent. If you can read music and commit to the rehearsal schedule, please consider joining us. Rehearsals will take place on Sundays after the 10:45am service beginning on Sunday, September 21. A detailed rehearsal and ringing schedule is available. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org

MUSIC FUND OF ST. JOHN'S



The Music Ministry here at St. John's is wholly reliant on the generosity of the members of the congregation through contributions to the Music Fund. The fund supports our efforts to provide uplifting and inspirational sacred vocal and instrumental music that enhances our experience of our worship to God. The three pillars of Stewardship: time, talent and treasure are essential for any music program to thrive and grow. Therefore, the Board of Worship would like to encourage you to consider donating to the Music Fund. There are white envelopes in the pews, or you can donate online.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House

I HAD FORGOTTEN
THAT JESUS WAS A
SUCH FAN OF
CONFLICT! "DAUGHTER
AGAINST MOTHER?"
IT'S LIKE **TEENAGE
REBELLION!**



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

NO, THE
QUESTION
IS...



WHEN YOU SEE THE ONLY SON OF
GOD HANGING FROM THE CROSS, WILL
YOU RECOGNIZE HIM AS AN
UNMERITED GIFT OF DIVINE GRACE, OR
WILL YOU SEE IT AS FOOLISHNESS AND
WEAKNESS?



WILL YOU BE A
BRAIN, A BEAUTY, A
JOCK, A REBEL, OR
A RECLUSE?



LUKE 12:49-56

©WETZSTEIN 2025.08.20



EQUIPPING ✝ ENGAGING ✝ ENCOURAGING

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

505 S. Park Rd. La Grange, IL 60525

www.sjlagrange.com

708-354-1690